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ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AS SECOND-
CLASS MATTER.

THURSDAY, - - - DECEMBER 16.

Texas is the right sort of State. Out of
a vote of 288,000 the Democratic majori-
ty is 182,000.

Mr. S. S. Cox, ex-Minister to the Orient,
stands up manfully against the proposed
charter for a railroad through the Yellow-
stone Park.

The terrible disaster to a steamboat on
the Mississippi river is an example again
to call for some legal precautions against
fire where the freight is so inflammable.

Labor candidate O'Neil got left so badly
in Boston not because of any success of
the capitalistic element but because he
ran on the George idea, and the laboring
people are beginning to see how foolish
it is.

The vote was 33 to 21 against stopping
the secret sessions of the Senate, and it
was not a party vote, but 16 Dem-
ocrats and 17 Republicans voted to lay on
the table. Riddleberger was not in his
seat.

The Rip Van Winkle of the Cluverius
case did not pan out well. There is a
newsboy in Manchester who claims to be
the "old man"; and doubtless the lost boy,
who was never found, will be the next
sensation. Any boy will do.

In Brooklyn, the home of "District
Assembly No. 49," the negroes have just
been informed that they cannot sit in the
lower part of a Theatre at entertainments
to be given by a branch of the Grand
Army of the Republic.

The attention of Mr. T. V. Powderly is
called to this fact.

It is stated that Mr. Powderly has or-
dered the Knights' Assemblies to with-
draw their delegates from the Trades'
Federation because of the latter's antag-
onistic position towards the Knights.

We must refer again to Mulroney's
great hit—that there was no sense in al-
lowing a butchers' union to settle the af-
fairs of a bricklayers' union.

The Secretary of War reports that
there are about six hundred good field
pieces for the army in case of need, but
that "there are particularly no carriages
for any of these guns." The wooden car-
riages made for the iron guns years ago are
no longer serviceable, and in any case
would not do for the steel guns. The
conclusion that "the needs of our field
artillery are most pressing" does not seem
overestimated.

The House of Representatives has
more than once gone by a large majority
for repealing the "Tenure of Office Act,"
which was enacted to restrain great
abuses on the part of certain Presidents.
The point is that the act takes from the
Executive the responsibility of removal,
and ordains the Senate as co-operative
with the President in removal as to all
appointments made by and with the
advice and consent of the Senate.
The Senate still loves its prerogatives.
The debate this week on the proposed
repeal of the act was maintained
principally by Messrs. Edmunds and Hoar,
he former holding that the repeal would
be the greatest step backwards in the way
of reform. Mr. Hoar maintains most
justly that no person should be kept in
an executive employment who has not the
confidence of the man responsible for the
success of such executive departments.

THE INEVITABLE.

It is useless for any one to attempt to
disguise any longer the nature of the sit-
uation into which the policy of the direc-
tors of the Democratic party in Virginia
has led us. The tax collectors have been
ordered by the authorities to levy on per-
sons who stand on a tender of coupons
for taxes, and the Supreme Court's deci-
sions are such as to force the collectors to
receive coupons or stand suits for dam-
ages. The State authorities forcing the
treasurers to one course and the Federal
courts forbidding that course puts the
treasurers between two fires and involves
their endorers, which brings the issue at
once to a point between the State and
Federal authority.

We have tried for a year to draw the
attention of the people to a clear under-
standing of the unavoidable results of the
policy, if the State was to be placed in an
attitude of antagonism to the Federal
Government, which has been tried by an
experiment that carried conviction to
every one who stood the ordeal and the
penalty like a man twenty years ago.

We have also explained that the threat
of repudiation is naught, because the is-
sue is joined on the validity of the cou-
pons, and therein on the practicability of
the Riddleberger act.

How any set of men expect to make
a debt settlement work that the creditors
do not accept is something that in this
business age is merely a back-action
piece of folly to cause the political suicide
of the people who are forcing it.

But besides this, the United States
Supreme Court has assassinated the
Riddleberger bill by allowing the creditors
the lever with which they can force the
State into ruin by furnishing taxpayers
with coupons at a little more than half
price and depriving the State of her
revenue.

If the policyholders think that men
will pay a dollar for what they can get
for sixty cents, and that a sentiment man-
ufactured on a misrepresentation of fig-
ures can impose on some three hundred
thousand voters, why, of course, the only
way for them is to try it.

But when the Republicans, as is evi-
dent, do not advocate repudiation, the re-
sult will be that the policyholders and
their followers will be mashed between
the Republican party and the debt-paying
Democrats.

Daylight could not be plainer to any
but the blind and those who will not see.

If the difference between the price of
an article of clothing in the mart of the
world and in our domestic market goes
into the pocket of an individual and not to
the Government for some specified and
good purpose, then, of course, the tax
that carries the difference should be re-
moved.

The panic in Wall street yesterday is
another danger signal to those who allow
themselves to be carried away by the ex-
citement of stock speculation. There is
no telling how many people in the South
have been made to play lamb and been
caught by wolves just as has happened so
often before.

The dispatches we publish and the ex-
tract from the New York Evening Post
indicate that the panic was the work of
speculators, and that no serious damage
is done.

Though Andersonville prison horrors
have been hissed off the stage the Rad-
icals utter another prolonged warwhoop
over the appointment of Dr. Dabney as
medical examiner in the Pension Bureau
because they affect to know that he was
a blood-curdling rebel surgeon at the
Andersonville prison. It has been so
often proved that the sufferings of the
sick prisoners at Andersonville were
owing to the refusal of the Federal au-
thorities to exchange prisoners or send
medicines and supplies, that really the
howl of the Radicals is too absurd. And
now it turns out that Dabney was never
connected with the Confederate army and
was recommended by a G. A. R. Post.

The tariff fight does not appear to be
quite so fixed for postponement as was at
first thought in Washington. Republi-
cans in the House are reported to
have agreed that a reduction of taxation
must be made, in proposing to take \$10,-
000,000 from sugar, \$10,000,000 from al-
cohol, and to abolish \$28,000,000 of tobacco
taxes. Mr. Morrison has given notice
that he will ask the House to consider
revenue measures next Saturday.

Sugar will raise a cry from Louisiana
such as was heard at the time of the con-
sideration of the Hawaiian treaty, and
though opposition will appear from all
quarters the push for tariff reform is
equally general.

The supposed sovereignty that allows
temporary representatives of the people
to enact by legislation, or what is worse,
by the decree of an Indemnity Board, a
code of political action on different prin-
ciples from the code applying to the peo-
ple who are the sovereignty, must be
wrong. The nature of the popular
political existence in which is the
sovereignty must be represented in the
people's "trustees and servants," or else
the representatives possess a personal
and not a delegated power. If the moral
idea of business obligations applying to
individuals does not apply to the govern-
ment, then the government is not rep-
resentative but personal, and the
sovereignty inate in the people changes
its nature in the hands of the "trustees
and servants."

SPECIAL AND PERSONAL.

This week's number of the *Baton* is
bright and sparkling.

Cyrus Fields' verdict against Bennett
for damages is quashed. Where is Lamb?

Puck's big Indian, noble child of na-
ture, says: "Me big dude, new nose-ring.
Mash gal."

The Pension Bureau must have re-
solved on a stroke to make an example,
for a deserter who applied for back pay
has been put in jail.

We are glad to hear that our esteemed
Brother Drinkard has been chosen Grand
Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia,
an honor which he deserves.

THE TIMES will soon be enlarged, and
then the kind reader will perceive the ad-
vantages of a lively penny newspaper
more even than at present, and will think,
if he misses it in the morning, that he
had just as well have gone without his
breakfast.

"Hope the best, but hold the present, fatal
daughter of the past,
Shape your heart to front the hour, but dream
not that the hour will last."
[Tennyson's Last Poem.]

There is solid sense in that advice.

A learned and virtuous paper says that
its objection to the ballet is that the girls
did not have sufficient training. The
Evangelical Alliance objects because they
do not have sufficient clothing.

More's the pity, and for sweet charity's
sake, O, managers, remember the weather
and take pity on the girls.

Ouida is going to manufacture an
American novel. The first thing to do is
to put an imitation Englishman and a
poodle in it, and then if she can get some
material from Buffalo Bill's Wild West,
and find the *Dispatch*'s "old man," it will
take.

Yes, it will take three policemen to
make anybody read it.

WE WANT A NEW DEPARTURE.

The Republican party on the other
hand, so far as this State is concerned, is
committed to readjustment or nothing,
and it cannot be expected to abandon its
debt policy in favor of any new settle-
ment which may be attempted by the
Democrats who now control the State
government. It enjoys the embarrass-
ments which readjustment has accumu-
lated upon its "acquiescing" converts. It
eagerly takes advantage of everything to
charge treachery and incompetence upon
the Democracy. Moreover, it is not to
be denied that events have concurred in
this matter to discredit the Democrats
and turn the eyes of thinking people in
another direction to seek for a settlement
of the debt agitation.

The abortive and impracticable attempt
of 1878, known as the "State credit move-
ment," had, at least, the merit of the right
spirit, and any movement animated by
that spirit now, and pushed with energy
and zeal, would be sure of success. But
where are the men who can start such a
movement. The 39 and their State Com-
mittee of 1878 will never do, for they have
proved their unfitness by their weak col-
lapse ere the Readjusters actually took the
field. Mr. Royall, the secretary of that
organization, has, to be sure, exhib-
ited his indomitable spirit and vigor in the
matter, but in a way that renders him
ineligible to deal with it politically,
as a leader. We must look elsewhere for
the right men; and common sense teaches
us that we must find them, if at all,
among that class of "funders"—Republican
and Democrats—who have never
"acquiesced," and that class of "Readjust-
ers" who have never favored repudiation,
and who have only favored that read-
justment compatible with the laws of the
country.

Now let these gentlemen come to the
front, independent of party, and appeal
to the people. We shall gladly be one of
their "organs." Many of our contem-
poraries, of both parties and of no party,
are ready to join in the appeal. The
people generally, Democratic and Repub-
lican, yearn for a final solution of the
wearisome problem. The time is ripe.
The hour is here, and we only need the
men, competent and tireless, to lead us
victoriously in and over both parties to a
settlement that shall bring peace with
honor.—*Index Appeal.*

We fail to see wherein the "old man"
in the Cluverius case throws any new
light on the mystery. He seems to have
tried to see how little he could know and
he has succeeded admirably.—*Danville
Register.*

THE OBSTACLE.

Our luminous contemporary, the *Sun*,
asks Congress to fortify the harbor, and
our venerable but energetic contempo-
rary, the *Herald*, asks Congress to build a
new navy, and to spend twelve millions in
building ten great steamships, to be used
to carry passengers in time of peace and
to carry troops in time of war.

These influential journals may, per-
haps, be willing to consider a method
by which these desirable and patriotic
enterprises can be carried out. For, as
The Star looks at it, there is but one
obstacle to the accomplishment of them,
and that is the present system of federal
taxation.—*N. Y. Star.*

The following is the closing verse in
The Birthday Ballad of "Truthful Jeems"
(Mr. James A. Gentry) in the last *Baton*:

Be all our days, in peaceful ways,
And all our memories green;
May love abound the world around
To cheer this mortal scene.
And when some day I pass away,
To sail "the unknown sea,"
In after years of smiles and tears,
May you remember me.

This may not be poetry after the
Tennysonian or Miss Cleveland idea, but
neither the rhyme or reason are bad.

According to the process by which
Auditor Ruffin reaches the sum of \$39,-
000,000 as the real debt of Virginia, the
more we pay the more we owe. In other
words, when we shall have conveyed to
the sinking fund the \$31,000,000 which
our creditors claim that we owe, instead
of being free from debt we shall really owe
\$62,000,000!—*Index Appeal.*

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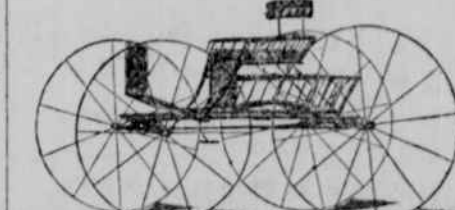
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